

### ***Resolution Honoring Brian O'Hara***

*Whereas* Brian O'Hara joined the National Association of Regulatory Utility Commissioners (NARUC) family in early 2007 as the association's Legislative Director, Telecommunications, Technology, and Water, just weeks before the NARUC Winter Policy Summit, demonstrating immediately his ability to take new and challenging situations in stride;

*Whereas* Mr. O'Hara spent the 18 years before NARUC earning a solid reputation for a strong work ethic, integrity, and effectiveness through his employment on Capitol Hill and also as a government affairs specialist for several national organizations prominent in telecommunications policy debates, including the US Telecom Association, the National Exchange Carrier Association, and the National Telecommunications Cooperative Association;

*Whereas* during his 10 years with NARUC, Brian was known for his innovative ideas, meticulous planning, dry humor, issue spotting and coalition building skills, and advocacy work on issues ranging from Caller ID spoofing to process reform, universal service and the Lifeline program;

*Whereas* Brian provided crucial support to the NARUC Committees on Telecommunications, Water, and Consumer Affairs – as well as yeoman's work as a key facilitator for many NARUC Presidential Task Forces and as the “center of the web” for the annual NARUC-sponsored Lifeline Awareness Week;

*Whereas* if a NARUC Committee, Commissioner, or Staff needed help on anything, Brian was always willing to step in with both the ability and enthusiasm needed to fix the problem – from drafting legal pleadings or press releases to planning NARUC staff subcommittee and Standing Committee agendas, panels or even NARUC general sessions – if help was needed, Brian would volunteer and make sure the job was done, e.g, he was often reputed to be the hardest worker in the Department of Meetings, proposing topics, writing abstracts, suggesting and inviting speakers.

*Whereas* Brian was always very envious of the energy side of the policy department because, though he refused to admit it, telecom without electricity is nothing more than two cans attached by a string or perhaps a smoke signal;

*Whereas* in the spirit of alliteration—for which he has boundless appreciation—Brian could be described as collaborative, creative, competent, committee-centered collegial, and sometimes colloquial, but never cross, crabby, or curmudgeonly;

*Whereas* Brian is someone you can (and do) count on;

*Whereas* there is literally no one in NARUC (or Washington) who knows Brian well that does not also like and respect him – his gregariousness, sense of humor, and D.C. experience have made him an invaluable friend and confidante of NARUC Commissioners and staff, consumer advocates, and professional colleagues working in the halls of Congress, at the Federal Communications Commission, and in sector companies and trade associations;

*Whereas* Brian embodies the best qualities of his Irish heritage with his quick wit and welcoming conversational style blending well with his trademark “conference” farewell – a heartfelt “take care my friend”;

*Whereas* two things are certain: Brian’s departure will leave a gap not easily filled and his friends at NARUC will miss his dedication, advice, and, most importantly, his kindness, *now, therefore be it*

*Resolved* that the National Association of Regulatory Utility Commissioners expresses its appreciation to Brian O’Hara for his 10 years of hard work and service to NARUC and the Committees on Telecommunications, Water, and Consumer Affairs, along with its best wishes for success in his new job (except on those rare occasions when his new employer’s advocacy positions conflict with NARUC’s).

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*Sponsored by the Committee on Telecommunications*

*Recommended by the NARUC Board of Directors November 14, 2017*

*Adopted by the NARUC Committee of the Whole November 15, 2017*